

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 MMO-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07
L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 CU-02 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 VO-03 SCA-01
/072 W

-----171836Z 111679 /44

R 170950Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2956
INFO /AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 1988
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USUN NEW YORK 573
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 1664

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, CZ
SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK VIEWS ON BELGRADE CSCE PREP TALKS

REF STATE 130949
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1. SUMMARY: DCM CALLED ON MFA SIXTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
ZANTOVSKY JUNE 14 TO DELIVER COPY OF SECRETARY'S
JUNE 6 STATEMENT TO CSCE COMMISSION. IN BRIEF EXCHANGE
REGARDING OPENING OF BELGRADE PREP TALKS THIS WEEK, ZANTOVSKY
NOTED GOC DEL WOULD BE LED BY AMBASSADOR RICHARD DVORAK AND WOULD PRE
SS FOR "CONSTRUCTIVE"

DISCUSSIONS, INDICATED MFA WAS ABOUT TO TAKE A NEW CONSULAR INITIATIVE TO EASE US-GOC DIFFICULTIES, AND EXPRESSED HOPE FOR A STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL DETENTE MAKING POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS IN US-CZECHOSLOVAK BILATERAL RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. ZANTOVSKY SAID GOC DELEGATION TO BELGRADE PREP TALKS WOULD BE HEADED BY AMBASSADOR DVORAK, FORMER CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR TO GDR, AND WOULD INCLUDE DR. JIRI SOBOTKAN DEPUTY CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT OF BASIC POLICY QUESTIONS (I.E., THE MFA POLICY PLANNING STAFF), AND JIRI OPRSA, A STAFF MEMBER OF THE SAME DEPARTMENT. ASKED WHO WOULD BE THE HIGHEST RANKING GOC REP AT BELGRADE TALKS THIS FALL, ZANTOVSKY SAID HE HAD EARLIER BELIEVED DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER SPACIL WOULD LEAD CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION. IN WAKE OF RECENT RESHUFFLE OF SPACIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES, HOWEVER, HE "SPECULATED" NEWLY APPOINTED DEP FON MIN JABLONSKY MIGHT BE GIVEN THIS ASSIGNMENT. COMMENT: AT NATO AMBASSADORS' LUNCHEON JUNE 15, CONSENSUS WAS THAT SPACIL HAD GENERALLY LOST GROUND AT THE MINISTRY BY HAVING TO RELINQUISH RESPONSIBILITIES FOR KEY WESTERN COUNTRIES. END COMMENT.

3. ZANTOVSKY SAID GOC DELEGATION TO BELGRADE PREP TALKS WOULD EMPHASIZE NEED FOR KEEPING CSCE FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSIONS "CONSTRUCTIVE". HE HOPED THAT RECENT STRAINS IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS (I.E. OVER HUMAN RIGHTS DIFFERENCES) COULD BE OVERCOME BY POSITIVE RESULTS AT BELGRADE AND IN UPCOMING SUMMIT MEETINGS (I.W. THE BREZHNEV VISITS TO FRANCE AND US). ZANTOVSKY UNDERSCORED GOC DESIRE FOR A REINVIGORATION OF EAST-WEST DETE AE, ARGUING THAT WITH A PROPITIOUS POLITICAL CLIMATE CZECHOSLOVAKIA COULD MOVE FORWARD ON KEY BILATERAL PROBLEMS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES. CONFIDENTIAL

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HE RECALLED THAT FOLLOWING THE STRENGTHENING OF DETENTE IN 1972 AND EARLY 1973 CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE ABLE TO ENTER CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH USG ON PRINCIPAL BILATERAL PROBLEMS --INCLUDING THE CLAIMS/GOLD QUESTION. HE CLEARLY BUT IMPLICITLY INDICATED THAT IMPROVEMENTS IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS COULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR PRAGUE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON.

4. DCM NOTED SOME WELCOME, THOUGH LIMITED, PROGRESS RECENTLY ABOUT STATUS OF REPORTED PLANS FOR "AMNESTY" AFFECTING CZECHOSLOVAKS DEEMED TO HAVE EMIGRATED "ILLEGALLY" AFTER THE EVENTS OF 1968. ZANTOVSKY REPLIED THAT MFA HAD BEEN MAKING PROGRESS ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES, THOUGH IT WOULD BE OBLIGED TO MAKE NEGATIVE DECISIONS IN SOME INSTANCES. HE THEN INDICATED MFA CONSULAR DEPARTMENT WOULD BE IN TOUCH THIS WEEK WITH EMBASSY RE "GOOD NEWS". (ON JUNE 16 EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER WAS ASKED TO CALL AT MFA JUNE 17 TO DISCUSS USG PROPOSAL ON RECIPROCAL EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL VISAS. WE ASSUME MFA WILL OFFER SOME IMPROVEMENT OVER CURRENT SIX-MONTH EXTENSIONS PRESENTLY GIVEN US OFFICIALS.)

5. COMMENT: ZANTOVSKY APPEARS ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO SIGNAL CZECHOSL
OVAK
DESIRE FOR EFFORTS TO MITIGATE US-GOC POLITICAL STRAINS, IF
AND WHEN NEW LIFE IS PUMPED INTO EAST-WEST DETENTE IN BELGRADE
AND IN THE COURSE OF NOW-PRESIDENT BREZHNEV'S FORTHCOMING
SUMMITRY.
FROWICK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PRAGUE01664
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770217-0383
Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770645/aaaabnfx.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0cfd7b7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 130949
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2112210
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CZECHOSLOVAK VIEWS ON BELGRADE CSCE PREP TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CZ, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0cfd7b7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009